



Update

Spring 2012

News for and about MiCL Research Partners, Advisory Panel Members and Related Folks

Greetings! This newsletter supplements the regular research progress reports provided by partners in the Research and Training Center on Measurement and Interdependence in Community Living (MiCL).
For the complete cast of characters, see the last page.

**What's here: Publications | Presentations | Training | International Work |
In the News | Service | Honors and Awards | New Resources | Now on YouTube**

Publications

Amanda Reichard is lead author of "[Quality of diabetes care for adults with physical disabilities in Kansas](#), which was published in *Disability and Health Journal* (Vol 5, No. 1, January 2012). Co-authors are Hayley Stolze, Ana Carolina Sella, and Theresa I. Shireman.

This article by Dot Nary is in press: Froehlich-Grobe, K., **Nary, D.E.**, VanSciver, A., Washburn, R.A., & Aaronson, L. Truth be told: Evidence of wheelchair users' accuracy in reporting their height and weight. *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*.

Presentations

Glen White made a presentation to the Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns on May 18, which included information on MiCL research as well as other projects being conducted by RTC/iL staff, his trainings in Peru (see "International Work" below) and his collaboration with Delat Air Lines (see "Now on YouTube").

Glen White and Charles Drum were responders for "State of the Science: Disability and Rehabilitation in Rural America." This unique web conference was sponsored by the RTC on Disability in Rural Communities at the University of Montana, where Tom Seekins and colleagues hosted the April 17-20 conference. It is [archived online](#).

Charles Drum presented "Community Engagement: From Health Care to Community Living" at the 2011 APRIL Conference in Anchorage, Alaska.

Amanda Reichard will present an abstract that she and Mike Fox authored at the 2012 AcademyHealth Meeting in late June. Their presentation involves MEPS data analysis and is titled "Using Population-Based Data to Examine the Relationship between Disability and Health

among Dually Eligible (Medicare/Medicaid) Adults.” The two are completing a manuscript of the findings that will be published in a special issue of the *Disability and Health Journal*.

Also in June, she will present make a poster presentation at the upcoming American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) conference on work she has conducted with Theresa Shireman. The presentation title is titled “What We Can Learn about Individuals with IDD from Medicaid Claims Data.”

She was invited to present at the Kansas Quality of Care Project, *Learning Workshop on the ADA Standards, Resources and Questions Answered for Healthcare Practitioners*. (See resources for materials that were developed for this event.)

She made an oral presentation at the 2011 American Public Health Association annual conference on *Quality of Diabetes Care for Adults with Physical Disabilities*.

Cat Howland presented “Best Practices to Level the Playing Field in Disasters for People with Disabilities” at the Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability and Diversity in April in as both a poster and oral presentation. (See “[Fact Sheets, Posters and Other Publications](#)” for the poster.)

Training

Amanda Reichard and Cat Howland contributed modules to an online School of Nursing graduate-level course at the University of Kansas Medical Center which debuted this spring. “Caring for People with Disabilities” is the first comprehensive disability awareness course that has been offered in the nursing school.

Reichard’s presentation was titled “The Intersection Between Disability and Chronic Disease.” Howland’s presentation was called “Snapshot for Health Care Personnel: The Unique Disaster-Related Needs of People with Disabilities.”

The course was created by two disability programs at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). The Disability and Health Program and the Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program partnered with the KUMC to offer the two-hour elective course.

Plans are in process to make this course and all its components available to any nursing school interested in this topic.

International Work

Glen White and KU Honors program student Sam Ho went to Perú in March to teach medical rehabilitation professionals how to better care for patients spinal cord injury (SCI). White has previously delivered a series of workshops to Peruvians with SCI about strategies to prevent or reduce the severity of secondary conditions.

For this training, he and Ho collaborated with health professionals from major medical rehabilitation centers in the U.S. to develop workshops for professionals who treat SCI patients, including medical rehabilitation physicians, nurses and other therapists. [Read more here.](#)

Glen White is collaborating with Kyung Mee Kim, PhD, and recent KU graduate Chiaki Gonda Kotani, MA, to replicate the MICL [R-5 CIL services](#) research in Korea and Japan. This international team is working with national CIL organization directors in both countries to survey independent living center staff about how they rank various services offered by their organizations.

To date, they have translated the survey, called the International Application of the Consumer Community Participation Survey, and created American, Japanese and Korean portals for consumers in the three countries to complete it.

In the News

Amanda Reichard's Medicaid research is featured in the University of Kansas Chancellor's "State of the University 2012" video report. [Watch the video](#) and see the "Building Healthy Communities" section for Reichard's work (at 4:57).

The Community Engagement Initiative (R-6) to increase access to healthcare was featured in the *Lawrence-Journal World* (11/1/11). The article titled "[KU research center working to reduce barriers to health care for people with disabilities](#)" features the experiences of Ranita Wilks, who is one of our CIL staff partners on the project at Independence Inc.

Kudos to Cat Howland, program manager for emergency preparedness in collaboration with our state Disability and Health program. The CDC has featured Kansas' emergency preparedness programs twice. Its weekly feature, [Have You Heard? Facts From The Field](#) (11/3/11) discusses ways the program influenced state policy changes for establishing and operating emergency medical shelters to better support people with disabilities.

The CDC also featured the [Nobody Left Behind](#) project in a CDC.gov feature article email on 3/28/12.

Service

Amanda Reichard was invited to serve on a National Institutes of Health (NIH) expert panel to define adults with chronic health care needs (ACHCN).

Honors & Awards

Martha Hodgesmith was awarded the 2012 Chief Justice Kay McFarland Lifetime Achievement Award by the Women Attorneys Association of Topeka in Feb. The award recognizes an individual who has achieved professional excellence in her field and has influenced other women to pursue legal careers, opened doors for women lawyers in a variety of job settings that historically were closed to them, or advanced opportunities for women within a practice area or segment of the profession.

Jessica Dashner, OTD OTR/L, was awarded an honorary membership into Pi Theta Epsilon, the Occupational Therapy Honor Society.

Amanda Reichard completed the Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute fellowship program in May.

New Resources

As part of MICAL's [R-6 project on healthcare access](#) and Amanda Reichard's health disparities work, the RTC/IL developed "[Disability Resources for Healthcare Providers.](#)" You can refer

practitioners to this page for:

- **How to Make Your Medical Practice More Accessible to People with Disabilities**
 - [Getting tax incentives for adjustable-height exam tables, accessible scales and facility improvements](#)
 - [Tips for improving access for people who have vision and hearing disabilities](#)
 - [Notes on disability etiquette](#)
- [IRS Tax Form 8826 for "Disabled Access Credit"](#) (PDF)
- [Outstanding Programs to Replicate to Promote the Health of People with Disabilities](#) (PDF) - This fact sheet identifies successful programs for training consumers, training medical professionals and paraprofessionals, and removing barriers.
- [Cancer Prevention for People with Disabilities](#) (PDF) - This resource guide lists informational websites, continuing education courses and research articles.

Now on YouTube

The RTC/IL has created these new videos about our research and emergency preparedness projects.

- [“The KU Diet Project for People with Physical Disabilities”](#) features NIDRR Field-Initiated Research led by Muriel Saunders and Amanda Reichard.
- [“Emergency Preparedness Kit for People with Disabilities”](#) provides tips from Glen White for creating an office kit.
- [“Animal Emergency Preparedness”](#) gives the basic steps for keeping your service animals and pets safe in a disaster, delivered by Val Renault.
- [“Emergency Preparedness Tips for People with Disabilities”](#) provides guidance from Cat Howland on how to prepare for an emergency.
- [“Be Prepared: Proper Handwashing”](#) displays proper handwashing technique as a preventive technique for seasonal and pandemic flu.

Who’s who in the Research and Training Center on Measurement and Interdependence in Community Living (RTC/MICL).

University of Kansas Research and Training Center on Independent Living:

Glen W. White, PhD, director, co-investigator
Martha Hodgesmith, JD, associate director
Amanda Reichard, PhD, research director
Dot Nary, PhD, research associate
Muriel Saunders, PhD, research associate
Jeff Gordon, BS, graduate research assistant
Catherine “Cat” Howland, MA, project coordinator
Pam Willits, grants specialist

Leslie Schmille, BS, project assistant
Val Renault, MA, communications coordinator

University of Montana Rural Institute on Disabilities:

Tom Seekins, PhD, co-investigator
Craig Raveslout, PhD, research associate

Oregon Health and Science University:

Angela Weaver, MEd, project coordinator
Charles Drum, PhD, JD, MPH, co-investigator (now at the University of New Hampshire)
Willi Horner-Johnson, PhD, assistant professor
Danielle Bailey, MPH, research assistant

Washington University in St. Louis, School of Medicine:

David Gray, PhD, co-investigator
Holly Hollingsworth, PhD, statistician
Jessica Dashner, OTD, OTR/L, research associate

U.S. Department of Education:

David Keer, Program Specialist
Co-chair, Interagency Subcommittee on Disability Statistics, Office of Special Education and
Rehabilitative Services

MICL Advisory Panel:

Fabricio E. Balcazar, PhD
Gwen Gillenwater
Linda Gonzales, MA
Robert Michaels
Jean Ann Summers, PhD
Betsy Valnes